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FARMERS IN SHENSI AND KWANGSI EXPECT GOOD CROPS; CHINESE REORGANIZE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION COOPERATIVES

Summary: An excellent wheat harvest in 1953 has been predicted for the Kuan-ching plain area in Shensi Province. Tests carried out by the crop judging team in Mao-lo Ts'un of Huien-yang Hsien have shown that the land can yield well. Farmers are preparing their equipment and the local militia constantly patrol to protect the crops.

In the Kuei-hsi, T'ung-tsu Autonomous Area in Kwangsi farmers of minority groups are receiving government aid. Local farmers have been organized to hunt wild beasts during the slack season.

The agricultural cooperative movement has been unsuccessful in many places. In North China, one fourth of the cooperatives have been demoted to mutual aid teams.

SHENSI WHEAT PROSPECTS EXCELLENT -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 4 Jun 52

The 800-li Kuan-chung plain in Shensi Province will have an excellent wheat crop in 1953, according to a report of investigations made by Hsin-hua reporter, Liu Pin, in hsiens and farm villages on both sides of the Lung-hai Railway between Tung-kuan and Pao-yuan. In Wu-kung Hsien, an improved wheat seed promo-In previous years, the arid plains and the stream watered lands of Shensi have never had abundant harvests at the same time; if there was a good harvest in the one, there was always starvation in the other. However, in 1953, not only will Hua Hsien have 300,000 mou of wheat with an average yield of 200 cattles per mou but also Ta-li Hsien, in a completely different type of region, will have 340,000 mou of wheat fields averaging at least 150 cattles per mou.

The lowland area south of the Wei Ho has never had high production, but this year it also will have a good harvest with many mutual aid teams and individual operators producing over 200 cutties of wheat per mou. In Mao-lo Ts'un of Hisienyang Hsien, the Ch'en Sheng-ch'uan Mutual Aid Team will greatly increase production

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on its 8 mou. According to actual field tests the mutual aid team is expected to harvest more than 400 catties per mou. In the arid plains of Shensi the Shensi People's Government is encouraging high production by promising awards. Last year, the Hsu Ching-chang Mutual Aid Team produced over 240 catties per mou but this year production will be about 20 percent greater.

Harvesting will begin shortly in Shensi's central plains, so farmers everywhere are repairing carts, buying and preparing farm tools, sharpening sickles, and rolling their threshing floors. The results of the crop judging are indicated by little red flags on sticks scattered through the wheat fields.

Local militia patrol day and night to protect the ripening crop.

MINORITY GROUPS PROFIT FROM GOVERNMENT AID -- Peiping, Jen-m'n Jih-pao, 30 May 53

In the Kuei-hsi T'ung-tsu Autonomous Area of Kwangsi, party and government units are giving strong aid to farmers of every nationality in solving spring planting and production problems. The second secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Committee of Kuei-hsi Ch'u and the chairman of the Kuei-hsi T'ung-tsu Autonomous Area People's Government together assumed responsibility for organizing a rural inspection team to study the difficulties and needs of farmers. Having gained an understanding of the agricultural problems of every nationality group including the T'ung, the Yao, and other backward tribes, they distributed large agricultural loans and aid in provisions, and they greatly increased production.

Moreover, the Chinese Communist Party Committee of Kuei-hsi Ch'u drew more than 20 names of cadres to organize a production work crops to direct spring cultivation in the 2d ch'u of Yung-ning Hsien, in the Kuei-hsi T'ung-tsu Autonomous Area.

This year the rains came earlier than expected, and young rice plants had to be transplanted early. This was carried out successfully in hiers and ch'us where the leading cadres' former lack of attention to spring cultivation and production had been corrected.

The autonomous area people's government strongly mided farmers of every nationality to make progress in spring planning and production by distributing relief aid amounting to over 169 billion yuan this spring, plus more than 436 billion yuan of production loans in the First half of the year and over 334 billion yuan of short-term revolving agricultural loans.

According to preliminary data, 14 hsiens directly connected with the Kueihsi T'ung-tsu Autonomous Area, including Pin-yang, Heng Hsien, and Yung-ning, used their loans of more than 125 billion yuan to buy over 9,000 head of draft oxen, over 7,000 small agricultural implements, about 1,100,000 catties of seed, and more than 180,000 piculs of fertilizer, sufficient to solve the production needs of more than 700,000 mou of fields.

At the same time, banks, trading companies, and cooperatives of the Kuei-hsi T'ung-tsu Autonomous Area People's Government promoted the sale of local products and specialties which provided the farmers with a livelihood and money for production supplies. Shang-lin Hsien trading companies immediately prepared large amounts of iron to make agricultural implements and cooperatives established small-scale shops to process agricultural implements.

Moreover, each ch'u cooperative set up privately owned iron forges, according to the type customarily used in local areas, and drew up contracts with the farmers regarding weight, quality of iron, and price. In accordance with the prescribed pattern, three ch'us together supplied more than 1,400 small and large

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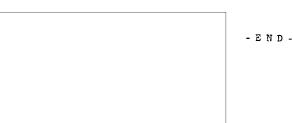
agricultural implements as well as providing farmers with large quantities of fertilizer and buying their tea oil, tung oil, and ox hides, etc. P'ai-se Special Administrative District held trade fairs at appropriate times, and encouraged government-controlled trading organs and private merchants to buy ordinary and special domestic products from the peasants of every nationality.

After having experienced the distribution of agricultural loans, relief aid, the supplying of every kind of production material, and the buying of local produce, the farmers gained political awareness and confidence in the possibilities of increased production. For example, after the farmers of various nationalities of Chiang-lu Hsiang, Shang-lin Hsien, had used their loans to buy draft oxen, fertilizer, and seeds, they not only finished plowing the whole area of irrigated and nonirrigated land one month earlier than last year, but also increased the planting of taros in preparation for the period when grain is short.

The Kuei-hsi T'ung-tsu Autonomous Area has many mountainous regions where wild beasts, most notably tigers, injure crops and domestic animals. The autonomous people's government organized farmers during the slack se. In to hunt wild beasts to defend the lives and crops of the minority nationality groups and have gradually eliminated calamities due to their depredations.

COOPERATIVES REVERT TO MUTUAL AID TEAMS -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 4 Jun 53

Throughout the country there is a movement to follow the principles of the proclamation of the Central Committee, Chinese Communist Party, on improvement of the agricultural production cooperative movement. In some areas like Morth China, one fourth of the agricultural production cooperatives were reduced to mutual aid team status because of having been two hastily organized. It had become apparent that a great many agricultural production cooperatives had been organized without basic preparation and by authoritarian methods with resulting chaotic conditions in the production program.



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